[English]

Economic Package for Jammu and Kashmir

4409. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI E. AHAMED :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have introduced any new economic package for Jammu and Kashmir recently; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. In order to accelerate the development process in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government of India has decided to take up some important projects and also to complete on-going projects on top priority. Some of these projects are :

(a) Construction of 290 KM. Railway Line from Udhampur to Baramulla as a national project.

(b) Construction of Mughal Road as a dependable alternative link between Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) Construction of Dulhasti and Uri Hydro projects in the State to provide much needed relief to the power starved state.

In addition, the following measures are proposed to be taken to revive economic activities in the State:

(a) Debt relief to small businesses affected by militancy

With a view to provide immediate succour and relief to the people engaged in trades like tourism, small scale industries, transport and hotel etc. who were worst affected due to militancy during the last 6 to 7 years, the Government proposes to write off the outstanding loans and interest of all borrowers whose original borrowing is less than or upto Rs. 50,000/- so as to enable them to seek fresh loans from banking sector to restart their businesses. For borrowers above Rs. 50,000/- an Inter-Ministerial Committee will be constituted to look into the question.

(b) Special Central Plan Assistance to J and K State for 1996-97

An amount of Rs. 352 crores is being provided during the current financial year to the J and K State by way of special Central plan assistance so as to bridge the gap on non-plan side so that the entire plan outlay can be utilised for development schemes.

(c) Infrastructural development for tourism in Leh district

An amount of Rs. 2.40 crores is being allocated for setting up of Convention/ Conference Centre in Leh to give further fillip to tourism in the area.

(d) Development of airport at Kargil

High priority is being given to the development of Kargil Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crores. In the meanwhile, the Government proposes to have a weekly helicopter service to Kargil in the winter months instead of the present arrangements of a fortnightly service. Necessary subsidy would be borne by the Government.

Rural Development Schemes in Barabanki

4410. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds sanctioned for Uttar Pradesh by the Union Government and State Government under IRDP, JRY and EAS;

(b) if so, the benefits accrued of the schemes to the people of Barabanki Parliamentary Constituency, Scheme-wise; and

(c) how much money has been sanctioned for Barabanki during 1996-97 by the Central and the State Government for Development Activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The details of funds sanctioned for Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 under IRDP, JRY and EAS are as under :—

S No.	Schemes	funds allocated	funds released central share	State share	(Rs. in lakhs) Total
1.	IRDP	20,316.50	5,078.12	4,993.39	10,071.51
2.	JRY	42,334.89	16,933.96	4,233.49	21,167.45
3.	EAS	——	820.00	205.00	1,025.00

(b) and (c). Information relating to Rural Development Programmes Parliamentary Constituency wise is not monitored. The details of the funds sanctioned by Centre and State Government to Barabanki district during 1996-97 and benefits accrued under the